DICKINSON, MACKAMAN, TYLER & HAGEN, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1600 HUB TOWER . 699 WALNUT STREET

DES MOINES, IOWA 50309-3986

TELEPHONE (515) 244-2600

HELEN C. ADAMS BRENT R. APPEL BARBARA G. BARRETT JOHN W. BLYTH L. CALL DICKINSON, JR. JEANINE M. FREEMAN DAVID J. GRACE CRAIG F. GRAZIANO HOWARD O. HAGEN J. RUSSELL HIXSON

PAUL E. HORVATH F. RICHARD LYFORD JOHN R. MACKAMAN RICHARD A. MALM JAMES W. O'BRIEN ARTHUR F. OWENS RESECCA BOYD PARROTT DAVID M. REPP ROBERT C. ROUWENHORST RUSSELL L. SAMSON

TELECOPIER (515) 246-4550 DAVID S. STEWARD WRITER'S DIRECT LINE

(515) 246-4513

PHILIP E. STOFFREGEN FRANK J. STORK JON P. SULLIVAN CELESTE L. TITO* PAUL R. TYLER JOHN K. VERNON J. MARC WARD

OF COUNSEL ROBERT E. MANNHEIMER RETIRED ADDISON M. PARKER JOHN H. RAIFE

ROBERT B. THROCKMORTON

NDA S. WEINDRILLON TO THE CHINSON (1904 1974) LINDA S. WEIND

October 26, 1994

Linda Beasley **Enforcement Specialist** U.S. EPA Region V **Emergency Support Section HSE-5J** 77 West Jackson Blvd.

Re:

Chicago, IL 60604

Herschel Corporation a/k/a Herschel Manufacturing Corporation Conservation Chemical Co. of Illinois, Inc. Site, Gary Indiana

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Our firm represents Herschel Corporation a/k/a Herschel Manufacturing Corporation located in Indianola, Iowa relative to the above-captioned matter. This letter is in response to your letter dated September 28, 1994, received by Herschel Corporation on October 5, 1994. Pursuant to oral extensions granted by Cynthia N. Kawakami of your office we have been given until today to respond to the above referenced letter.

Without admitting any liability for the performance or financing of the activities described in your letter or any liability to reimburse the U.S. EPA for its costs, please consider this letter as an indication of Herschel Corporation's willingness to negotiate in good faith for a settlement of any claim that might exist against it in connection with the Gary, Indiana Site. It is Herschel Corporation's understanding that it allegedly generated hazardous substances which may have been disposed of at such facility. Any such activities would have occurred prior to the current owners of Herschel Corporation acquiring such corporation, however, and, therefore, current management's understanding may not be totally correct.

DICKINSON, MACKAMAN, TYLER & HAGEN, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Linda Beasley October 26, 1994 Page 2

Herschel Corporation can not advise you at this time whether it will be represented at the November 10, 1994 meeting, but it can assure you that it is sincerely interested in a prompt and mutually satisfactory resolution of its potential liability.

Very truly yours,

Paul R. Tyler

PRT/cg

cc: Mr. Charles Ephriam, Esq. (via fax (312)269-1747)

Neal Gerber Eisenberg & Lurie 208 South La Salle Street

Chicago, IL 60604

Mike O'Hara (via fax (617)951-7050

Ropes & Gray

Dean Longnecker Central Tractor

Steve Lind

Herschel Corporation